



**Rep. Stacey Abrams
D-84**

Biography

Stacey Y. Abrams is the House Minority Leader for the Georgia General Assembly and State Representative for the 89th House District. She is the first woman to lead either party in the Georgia General Assembly and is the first African-American to lead in the House of Representatives. Stacey serves on the following committees: Appropriations, Ethics, Judiciary Non-Civil, Rules and Ways & Means. She co-founded and acts as Senior Vice President of NOWaccount Network Corporation, a financial services firm. Stacey also co-founded Nourish, Inc., a beverage company with a focus on infants and toddlers, as well as other entrepreneurial ventures. Formerly, she was Deputy City Attorney for the City of Atlanta. Prior to her tenure at the City, she was Special Tax Counsel at Sutherland, with a focus on tax-exempt organizations, health care and public finance.

In 2012, Stacey received the prestigious John F. Kennedy New Frontier Award, which honors an elected official under 40 whose work demonstrates the impact of elective public service as a way to address public challenges. Stacey has been recognized nationally as one of “12 Rising Legislators to Watch” by *Governing* magazine and one of the “100 Most Influential Georgians” by *Georgia Trend* for 2012 and 2013. She has been honored as a *Legislator of the Year* by the Georgia Alliance of Community Hospitals, as *Public Servant of the Year* by the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, *Outstanding Public Service* by the Latin American Association, *Champion for Georgia Cities* by the Georgia Municipal Association, as *Legislator of the Year* by the DeKalb County Chamber of Commerce. She received the *Georgia Legislative Service Award* from the Association County Commissioners Georgia, the *Democratic Legislator of the Year* from the Young Democrats of Georgia and Red Clay Democrats, and an *Environmental Leader Award* from the Georgia Conservation Voters. She was also Grand Champion for the Legislative Livestock Round-Up at the Georgia State Fair.

Stacey is a former term member of the Council on Foreign Relations, a Next Generation Fellow of the American Assembly at Columbia University on U.S. Global Policy and the Future of International Institutions, an American Marshall Memorial Fellow, an American Council of Young Political Leaders Fellow, a Council on Italy Fellow, a British-American Project Fellow, a Salzburg Seminar – Freeman Fellow on U.S.-East Asian Relations, a Salzburg Seminar Fellow on youth and civic engagement and a Yukos Fellow for U.S.-Russian Relations.

She is an alumnus of the Leadership Georgia, Leadership Atlanta and the Regional Leadership Institute. She has received the Stevens Award for Outstanding Legal Contributions and the Elmer Staats Award for Public Service, both national honors presented by the Harry S. Truman Foundation. She is also a 1994 Harry S. Truman Scholar.

Stacey was inducted into the Academy of Women Achievers by the YWCA of Metro Atlanta and was chosen by Womenetics as a 2011 POW! Winner and by *Atlanta Woman* magazine as one of its "25 Power Women to Watch." Other recognition includes *Georgia Trend's* "40 Under 40" list, the *Atlanta Business Chronicle's* "Top 50 Under 40" list, as well as recognition as one of Georgia's Rising Super Lawyers by *Atlanta Magazine* and *Law & Politics Magazine*. She was also named one of "30 Leaders of the Future" by *Ebony Magazine*.

She has published articles on issues of public policy, taxation and nonprofit organizations, including pieces with *The Christian Science Monitor*, *Yale Law and Policy Review*, *U.S. News and World Reports* and the *Huffington Post*. Under the pen name Selena Montgomery, Stacey is the award-winning author of eight romantic suspense novels, which have sold more than 100,000 copies.

Stacey currently serves on the Board of Trustees for Agnes Scott College, the Board of Directors for the Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee, the Board of Directors for the Gateway Center for the Homeless, and the Advisory Boards for Literacy Action and Health Students Taking Action Together.

Stacey received her J.D. from the Yale Law School. She graduated from the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin with an M.P.Aff. in public policy. She earned a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies (Political Science, Economics and Sociology) from Spelman College, *magna cum laude*.